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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/582,900	06/13/2006	Arnaud Bailleul	4590-532	5003
33308	7590	01/02/2009	EXAMINER	
LOWE HAUPTMAN & BERNER, LLP 1700 DIAGONAL ROAD, SUITE 300 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			DAO, THUY CHAN	
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2192				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/582,900	BAILLEUL, ARNAUD	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thuy Dao	2192	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2008.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 09 December 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the amendment filed on September 22, 2008.
2. Claims 1-10 have been examined.

Response to Amendments

3. The objection to the drawings is withdrawn in view of Applicant's persuasive arguments.

However, FIG. 1-4 currently are too small for reading/viewing. The examiner respectfully requests the Applicants to resubmit FIG. 1-4 as illustrated in the Certified Copy of Foreign Priority Application (pages 12 and 14).

Specification

4. The specification is objected to because of minor informalities.

Acronyms (UML, SSS, SRS) should be spelled out in full at the first appearance in the specification.

All terms "UML Requirement" should be amended to recite - -UML [[Requirement]] requirement- -.

All terms "UML Requirement)" should be amended to recite - -UML [[Requirement)])] requirement- -.

5. The use of the trademarks "RHAPSODY" and "DOORS" have been noted in this application. It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology, i.e., - -RHAPSODY.TM.- - and - -DOORS.TM.- -.

Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

Claim Objections

6. Claims are objected to because of minor informalities.

Claim 1:

Acronym “UML” should be spelled out in full at the first appearance in claims.

Line 3 is considered to read as - -[[during the modeling,]] using a graphics interface [[is used]] when creating an element of [[a]] the UML model- -.

Lines 4-6 are considered to read as - -placing a requirement immediate on the element in [[this]] the graphics interface and the element is systematically filled in with [[the]] an upward requirement ...of [[this]] the element- -.

Claims 2-10:

All terms “UML Requirement(s)” are considered to read as - -UML [[Requirement(s)]] requirement(s)- -;

All terms “a UML requirement” (claim 2), “said requirement” (claim 2) and “the UML requirements” (claim 3) ... should be amended consistently to recite further limitations of either “a requirement” or “a UML requirement” (claim 1, line 4).

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §112

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claim 5-6 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 5-6 and 8-10 contain the trademark/trade name “DOORS.TM”. Where a trademark or trade name is used in a claim as a limitation to identify or describe a particular material or product, the claim does not comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. See Ex parte Simpson, 218 USPQ 1020 (Bd. App. 1982). The claim scope is uncertain since the trademark or trade name cannot be used properly to identify any particular material or product. A trademark or trade name is used to identify a source of goods, and not the goods themselves. Thus, a trademark or

trade name does not identify or describe the goods associated with the trademark or trade name.

In the present case, the trademark/trade name "DOORS.TM." is used to identify/describe a requirements management tool of the company Telelogic (specification, page 2, last paragraph) and, accordingly, the identification/description is indefinite.

For the purpose of compact prosecution, the phrase is considered to read as - -
...are exported to [[the "DOORS"]]a requirements management tool...- -.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicants' arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

11. Claims 1-4 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by "Essential Rhapsody in C++" version 4.1, published January 1, 2003 (art made of record, hereafter "Rhapsody4.1").

Claim 1:

Rhapsody4.1 discloses a *method of requirements traceability based on a UML model, comprising the steps of:*

using a graphics interface (e.g., page 1-8, using the Browser in left panel, which shows every element such as package, class, use case,... in a UML model)

when creating an element of the UML model (e.g., page 1-9, creating a class/element “Display”; page 1-10, creating element “constructor” for the class/element “Display”),

placing a requirement immediately on the element in this graphics interface (e.g., page 1-11, the Features window, requirements such as Stereotype, Visibility, number/type of Arguments ...; page 1-12, implementation requirement such as outputting the greetings “hello”) and

the element is systematically filled in with an upward requirement which has given rise to the creation of the element (e.g., page 1-18, generating code, i.e., creation of said class/element “Display” and said class/element “Display” is generated/inserted/filled in with the specified requirement; page 1-19, output results with the specified requirements such as Visibility, number/type of arguments, the greetings “hello”).

Claim 2:

Rhapsody4.1 discloses the method as claimed in claim 1, comprising the steps of: when creating a UML requirement which has repercussions on several elements of the model, attaching said requirement to the common element containing the set of elements on which the requirement has repercussions (e.g., page 1-7, project “Hello” has a common folder requirement as “c:\work\Hello”; page 1-18, directory “c:\work\Hello”; page 1-25, files/elements of the project “Hello” have the same directory/folder).

Claim 3:

Rhapsody4.1 discloses the method as claimed in claim 1, comprising the steps of: when an element of the model is deleted, all the UML requirements attached to this element are likewise deleted (e.g., page 1-9, deleting class “Display” from the entire model).

Claim 4:

Rhapsody4.1 discloses *the method as claimed in claim 3, wherein all the UML requirements attached to all the elements attached to said element are likewise deleted* (e.g., page 1-10, when class “Display” is deleted, its constructor is also deleted with all attached requirements).

Claim 7:

Rhapsody discloses *the method as claimed in claim 2, wherein when an element of the model is deleted, all the UML requirements attached to this element are likewise deleted* (e.g., page 1-9, a class is deleted from the entire model; page 1-11, “Delete from Model”).

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

13. Claims 5-6 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rhapsody4.1 in view of “Visual Requirements-Driven Development with UML 2.0” to Cris Kobryn (art made of record, hereafter “Kobryn”).

Claim 5:

Rhapsody4.1 does not explicitly disclose *the method as claimed in claim 1, comprising the steps of: the UML requirements are exported to a requirements management tool so as to ensure therein their management and their traceability.*

However, in an analogous art, Kobryn further discloses *the UML requirements are exported to a requirements management tool so as to ensure therein their management and their traceability* (e.g., page 26, 29, and 31).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Kobryn's teaching into Rhapsody4.1's teaching. One would have been motivated to do so to "navigate to DOORS" as suggested by Rhapsody4.1 (e.g., page 1-11) and automate validation and verification as suggested by Kobryn (e.g., page 26, 29, and 31).

Claim 6:

Rhapsody4.1 discloses the method as claimed in claim 5, comprising the steps of: the UML requirements are exported to the requirements management tool, in the course of the development of the model, each time that this model has attained a stable state.

However, in an analogous art, Kobryn further discloses the UML requirements are exported to the requirements management tool, in the course of the development of the model, each time that this model has attained a stable state (e.g., page 26, 29, and 31).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Kobryn's teaching into Rhapsody4.1's teaching. One would have been motivated to do so to "navigate to DOORS" as suggested by Rhapsody4.1 (e.g., page 1-11) and iterate testing/validation/verification upon the granularity of the requirements as suggested by Kobryn (e.g., page 26-27, 29, and 31).

Claims 8-10:

Claims 8-10 depend on claims 2-4, respectively, which recite(s) the same limitations as those of claim 5, wherein all claimed limitations have been addressed and/or set forth above. Therefore, as the reference teaches all of the limitations of the above claim(s), it also teaches all of the limitations of claims 8-10.

Conclusion

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to examiner Thuy Dao (Twee), whose telephone/fax numbers are (571) 272 8570 and (571) 273 8570,

respectively. The examiner can normally be reached on every Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 6:00AM to 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam, can be reached at (571) 272 3695.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273 8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272 2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Thuy Dao/
Examiner, Art Unit 2192

/Tuan Q. Dam/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2192